



## Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002360-20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 9 July 2020 which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many people did your force release ‘under investigation’ each month for the last two years (up to and including May 2020)? If possible, please can you state the average length of time these people were under investigation prior to being charged or charges being dropped.*
2. *How many people did your force release on pre-charge bail each month for the last two years (up to and including May 2020)? If possible, please can you state the average length of time these people were on bail for.*

## Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 30 July 2020

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

The information provided below confirms the total number of occasions released under investigation (RUI) and pre-charge bail have been used for the last two years.

It should be noted that the bailed to date is not always completed correctly and consequently, the average length, which is an average of all recorded RUI and bail lengths, may not be accurate.

It should be noted that some cases can extend over significant time periods for a variety of reasons. In the majority of the cases, the explanation is that more than one complicating factor has arisen. These can include the need to arrest numerous subjects, in different areas of the country, so that a court can understand the full picture of alleged criminality. There can also be a need to examine significant quantities of both evidence and unused material to ensure that the risk of cases proceeding to trial, when they should not, is minimised. The most complex cases are subject to additional scrutiny, by senior managers within the investigations command, to ensure that expeditious progress continues to be made even when enquiries do become protracted.

1. The total number of people released under investigation (RUI) from June 2018 to May 2020, is provided below by month.

<b>Norfolk Constabulary</b>			
<b>Force</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January		230	356
February		289	389
March		346	343
April		348	290
May		417	365
June	67	459	
July	78	427	
August	112	468	
September	115	422	
October	120	386	
November	139	367	
December	154	386	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>4545</b>	<b>1743</b>

<b>Suffolk Constabulary</b>			
<b>Force</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January		215	251
February		198	302
March		248	257
April		266	257
May		352	328
June	55	315	
July	85	351	
August	99	323	
September	104	323	
October	128	314	
November	132	304	
December	154	293	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>3502</b>	<b>1395</b>

The average length of RUI is as follows:

Norfolk – 191 days

Suffolk – 189 days

2. The total number of people released on pre-charge bail from January 2019 to May 2020, is provided below by month.

<b>Norfolk Constabulary</b>			
<b>Force</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January		56	264
February		66	226
March		104	219
April		102	226
May		155	287
June	21	191	
July	33	227	
August	36	214	
September	25	204	
October	54	228	
November	47	218	
December	60	240	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>1222</b>

<b>Suffolk Constabulary</b>			
<b>Force</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
January		64	257
February		99	242
March		125	293
April		156	275
May		195	295
June	19	191	
July	25	290	
August	34	273	
September	47	257	
October	52	282	
November	65	221	
December	60	261	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>2414</b>	<b>1362</b>

The average length of pre-charge bail is as follows:

Norfolk – 34 days

Suffolk – 32 days

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Clair Pack, FOI Decision Maker, quoting the reference number shown above.

A full copy of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) can be viewed on the 'Office of Public Sector Information' web-site;

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are not responsible for the content, or the reliability, of the website referenced. The Constabulary cannot guarantee that this link will work all of the time, and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

Your Right to Request a Review of Decisions Made Under the Terms of the  
Freedom of Information Act (2000).

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled, or if you think the decision is incorrect, you have the right to ask the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary that you are requesting a review within 20 days of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Requests for a review should be made in writing and addressed to:

*Freedom of Information Decision Maker  
Information Management Department  
Suffolk Constabulary  
Police Headquarters  
Martlesham Heath  
Ipswich  
Suffolk  
IP5 3QS  
OR  
Email: [information@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:information@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)*

In all possible circumstances Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 40 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you can apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) or contact them at the address shown below:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545 700